

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:03PM on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 at the Town Offices. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis and John Tripp present.

Reorganization of the Board: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to keep the board the same: Dale Kiley as Chairman, Jason Petraitis as Vice Chairman, and John Tripp as Clerk. So voted.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from May 16. So voted.

Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Kiley seconded, a motion to approve the minutes from May 26 and May 26 executive session. So voted.

Sheila Orsi Downtown Development Committee: Sheila Orsi was present to give a monthly update on the Downtown Development Committee. The committee is done with Tier II and should be moving onto the Tier III as soon as possible, the COVID pandemic has slowed the progress of the project. DDC is still working to create a business committee within town. DDC will have to meet with Jason Benoit and Ashley Barre to coordinate efforts. DDC has been working with the Historical Society to verify if the wall in front of the church (across from library) is historical or if it can be moved to make a larger sidewalk. DDC will also be working with Water and Sewer. Sue Lewandowski asked to be part of the DDC and she was approved at their last meeting. Marilynn Borst and Danny Roman discovered the open space plan needs to be updated in order to apply for grants. This will be part of the Master Plan, which has been delayed because of COVID. Mr. Tripp mentioned that John Turner and Sue Lyons have been making progress on the master plan. Sheila needs to print and mail surveys, collect data and hold some public meetings. Mr. Kiley said DDC can use the Senior Center or Police Department for meetings, Mr. Petraitis stated the Library also has 2 meeting rooms. There was some discussion about in person and ZOOM meetings. As long as the meeting is posted, and you can follow state mandates regarding social distancing, you can meet in person and have ZOOM for those uncomfortable meeting in person. Sheila asked about the Town Park (behind sign), Mr. Tripp said he should be able to start putting in the benches and making the brick pathways in the next week or two, he just needs to coordinate with his crew and get some more volunteers. Sheila asked if there was a possibility of the Town buying the red building for parking. The board stated the Town doesn't have the money to purchase the building, and especially with the COVID crisis they want to be extra careful with spending. Sheila asked if the Board has any news for her. Mr. Petraitis stated the Cemetery Commission is talking about doing some maintenance at the Maple St location; fixing the wall, a fence, and putting a flagpole up. Mr. Tripp told Sheila to keep up the good work.

EMS Gift: The North Brookfield EMS was given money through a will. The document stated the money was being given to the Selectmen for the EMS to use as necessary. The Board will ask Nancy to setup a gift account for this money, which the EMS can request funds and the Board can approve. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the donation on behalf of the NBEMS.

Town Offices Lease: Ashley will send the document to the Board for review so they can compare to last years lease, and look to sign it at next weeks meeting.

Accept donations for Park Benches and tables: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept all the donations for the park bench and tables up to June 2, 2020. So voted.

Transfers:

Fire Department submitted a transfer request for \$5000.00. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the request. So voted.

Board of Health submitted a transfer request from various accounts to cover recycling contracts. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the request. So voted.

Town Clerk submitted a transfer request from Election salary to postage for \$1000.00. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the request. So voted.

Reserve Fund Request: BOS Admin submitted 3 reserve fund requests- \$5400 to cover Solar PILOT consulting fee. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the transfer. So voted. \$830.59 to cover signage in Town (no littering, and parking). Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the transfer. So voted. \$6000.00 to cover Emergency Action Plan for Doane and Horse Pond Dams. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the transfer. So voted. **After the meeting Ashley discovered there was money in the BOS budget to cover these bills so these transfers will not be made**

Solar Decommissioning Bond: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to sign the bond. So voted. Mr. Kiley had a question about hazardous waste, Mr. Tripp stated the Planning Board was told the solar panels are made with different materials now.

Holly (Veterans Service Agent) purchased 2 multi-color spotlights for use in Town for special occasions. Mr. Kiley said he was looking into different colored lens covers.

There was some discussion about the Town Meeting being held June 5th. The Board spoke about the safety precautions being taken (social distancing, masks, ect) The Town Moderator can remove people from Town Meeting, but can't deny access. For example if he asks someone to quiet down and they are disrupting the meeting the Moderator can ask them to leave. The Board of Selectmen have no control over Town Meeting, the Moderator is in charge.

Tree Warden: Anthony Holway resigned from his position as Tree Warden. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to appoint Jason Benoit, Highway Superintendent, as interim Tree Warden. So voted.

Discussion about planned protest for Wednesday June 3rd. The Police, Fire, and EMS have all been notified and will be ready to assist if needed. Mr. Kiley said he would also speak to Highway.

At 7:00PM, there being no further business, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre